

Fireside Department.

About Two Hymns.

BY MARIA P. WOODBRIDGE.

One of the most remarkable instances of youthful precocity on record is that related by the charming writer of "Evenings with the Sacred Poets," concerning the author of our beautiful hymn—

"...and can it ever be, A mortal man advanced to thee?" These lines were written by Thomas Green, of Ware, in the year 1774, when only ten years old. As Mr. Saunders says, "As a marvel of precocious talent, it deserves to rank with Milton's psalm, 'Let us with a gladness mind,' written at the age of fifteen."

One of our most inspiring hymns, which stirs the heart like the sound of the trumpet, is that commonly known as "Coronation." It is frequently found in our hymn-books credited to a Mr. Duncan, and sometimes to Rowland Hill, with whom it was a great favorite. Its real author, however, was the Rev. Edward Peronet, a dissenting clergyman in the time of the Wesley's. He was a travelling companion and kindred spirit with Charles Wesley, and it is pleasant to imagine them joyously singing and preaching their happy way through Southern England.

A recent writer has given us the following anecdote in connection with this grand hymn: "The late William Dawson, a highly popular local preacher among the Wesleyan Methodists of England, was, some years since, preaching in London upon the offices of Christ. After presenting him as the great Teacher and Priest, who made himself an offering for sin, the preacher introduced him as the king of saints. Having shown him to be king in his own right, he marshaled the immense procession of patriarchs and kings, prophets and apostles, martyrs and confessors of every age and time, until at length all his followers were assembled, and the imposing ceremony of coronation was about to take place. The audience were intensely excited, and when Mr. Dawson began singing,

"All hail the power of Jesus' name, Bring forth the royal crown, And crown him Lord of all,"

the audience sprang to their feet and sang the hymn with such spirit and feeling as perhaps it was never sung before, right royally paying their homage to Jesus as their sovereign." Peronet wrote several books of sacred poetry, but only one grand hymn, and that was enough; that man did not live in vain who taught Christ's Church how to adore God in his own name, and to adore God in his own name.

Peronet died in 1792, his last words being, "Glory to God in the height of his divinity, glory to God in the depth of his humanity, glory to God in his all-sufficiency, and unto his hands I commend my spirit."

The Scientific Frog.

A FABLE.

A discontented and curious frog seeing a couple of men sitting under the shadow of a tree by the side of a stream of water, and engaged in conversation, hopped up to the bank, and seated himself before them to learn something from their conversation.

One of them was a scientific quack, and was just now warmly advocating "the development by pothesis."

"We know nothing of God," said he; "this stream flows on because water runs down hill; the wind blows because it makes it blow; the sun shines and the plants grow all as the result of law. Who sees any design in it? A man is a fool to believe what he cannot see. What are we men? Only higher developments of some lower animals, such as fishes and frogs!"

And then the men departed. Thereafter the frog was a philosopher. He held up his head with pride, and endeavored to hop only on his hind legs. He was not particularly proud of his ancestry, but entertained great expectations of his numerous family of polygots. One of them at least he hoped would develop into a little man.

After this he retired to travel and enrich his mind by observation. The first place he visited was a saw-mill, of which he had often heard his father speak. He seated himself upon a log with his back toward a large revolving saw, and began to soliloquize.

"Now, the saw-mill," said he, "my father told me was designed by a higher power for the purpose of making boards. Nonsense! There is no such thing as design. This mill was made itself. It was developed by nature and law. How foolish to believe in what you cannot see!"

In the meantime the miller let on the water, and the log began to glide smoothly and the saw to revolve; and while the frog was absorbed in meditation the saw reached him, and presto! he was cut asunder, and that was the end of his travels and philosophy.

MORAL: It is not well for frogs or men to know too much, for excess of knowledge and stupidity are sometimes the same thing.—Dr. E. O. HAVEN.

A Touch of the Whip.

I noticed, when once riding on the top of a stage coach, that the driver at certain points on the road gave one forward horse a slight touch of the whip. And as the horses were going a fair pace, I asked him why he did it. He replied that the horse had been in the habit of starting and sneering at something seen or imagined at those places on the road, and a touch of the whip just before arriving there gave him something to think of, so that he passed by without noticing what had before startled him.

And is it too much to believe that He who is conducting many sons and daughters to glory notices all the perilous points they pass, directs their thoughts and purposes from dangerous directions by giving them such things to think of as will break the force of temptation, and secure them from wandering? A sad bereavement, a bitter disappointment, a serious illness, a pecuniary loss, as the hour of temptation is at hand, is the touch of the whip. It awakens serious thought. It drives the soul to prayer. It dims the false brightness of things earthly, and gives fresh vividness and power to things heavenly and eternal; so that, under such spiritual influences, the points of danger are safely passed and the great life's journey is traveled the more safely, and the prospects of heaven are made all the brighter.

Wasted Fertilizers.

The Farmer's Home Journal says: On every old place in Central Kentucky there are such things as old wood piles, where chips have accumulated and decomposed for fifty years; then there are old piles of ashes sometimes three or four feet deep, which have been accumulating for the same length of time; then there are old straw piles and heaps of stable manure which have never been hauled out; again there are deposits under the hen roosts, sometimes two feet deep, which are equal to the best Peruvian guano, and when these are all hauled out, we will go to an inexhaustible supply of rich molds and alluvial deposits of decayed vegetable matter, which have been collecting for ages, in places on branches and creeks which run through most farms. We have still another supply yet, in the muck mud, which, if dug out in the summer time, when the marshes and swampy places are dry and hard, it can be hauled close to, it not quite to winter freezing will pulverize, it and put it in fine condition for a crop the next season.

Farm and Household.

To Destroy Lice.

The best preparations for the removal of lice from cattle, young or old, are a salve of fresh lard ground up with fine sulphur (one ounce of sulphur to four ounces of lard) and raw linseed oil mixed with kerosene oil in the proportion of four parts of linseed to one part of kerosene. These should be rubbed from between the ears all along the backbone to the root of the tail about twice a week. Two applications are generally sufficient. It is not in any degree hurtful if it is licked by the cattle. Lice which have been placed in contact with a small quantity of either of these mixtures were immediately killed, while mercurial ointment and carbolic acid failed to kill them in several hours.

The Destruction of our Forests.

Thirty years ago in the valley of the Genesee, New York, village merchants were in the habit of receiving pine lumber from customers at the rate of \$5 per thousand feet, and giving therefor "store pay" as value received. To-day, in some portions of the Genesee valley, there are a few acres of pine yet standing, and single trees are worth from fifty to one hundred dollars as they stand. The present development of the West is as rapid, proportionately, as that of the East has been during the past thirty years. Owners of pine lands in the West have been anxious to realize the greatest immediate profit from their valuable acres rather than adopt measures whereby a reasonable return would result from labor and investment, and at the same time fully utilize the timber cut.

Working and Fretting.

Two gardeners, who lived in the same village, had their early pees killed by the frost. One of them came to see the other two or three months afterward. "Ah!" cried he, "how unfortunate! Do you know, neighbor, that I have done nothing but fret ever since the frost. But you seem to have a fine healthy crop coming on. How is this?" "Why, these are what I sowed directly after my loss." "What, in such fine condition?" "Yes," replied the other, "while you were fretting, I went to work again, without loss of time."

Summer Blankets for Horses.

Blanketing horses in Summer is now an acknowledged necessity, and light blankets are now an important portion of the harness-maker's stock. The materials used for these are brown and bleached linen, scrims, flannel and light cotton duck. Muslin sheets are also used; but these, as well as those made of duck, are not popular. Linen and flannel are the favorite goods; they cost more, but are durable and look well. Twilled braid is used for binding and joining and some of the finer qualities have monograms or the name of the horse worked on with very narrow braid of the same shade as the binding. Serims is used more as a protection against flies than for any other purpose; and being very loosely woven, requires to be well bound at the seams. A strip of light leather should be stretched on under the braid, either on the back of the serim or between it and the braid. The edge of the serim must be turned in so that the outer row of stitches will pass through two thicknesses; if this is not done it will ravel and the binding will come off.—Young Folks Rural.

Paranips.

A Western correspondent says: When paranips are first taken from the ground they are not in a condition to be eaten, but should always be allowed to lie in the cellar from four to six weeks to cure, freely exposed to the air. If freed they will be so much sweeter and more toothsome. The Hollow Crown variety should in all cases be selected.

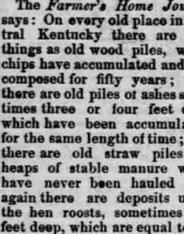
Hot Filtering.

The apparatus consists of a tube of soft sheet lead which can be wound around the funnel containing the filter in the form of a spiral. One end of the tubes passes through a cork in the neck of a flask, in which water, or other liquid of higher boiling point, is boiled; the other end dips into a receiver into which the condensed liquid flows.

To Cure a Cough.

Roast a medium sized lemon very carefully without burning it; when it is thoroughly hot, cut and squeeze it into a cup upon three ounces of sugar finely pulverized. Take a teaspoonful whenever the cough is troublesome.

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Cabbage.

To Free Cabbage From the Cabbage Worm.—It has been recommended by one who asserts that he has practiced it thirty years to examine the cabbage before they head, and if the web of the caterpillar is found, or holes in the leaves of the bud, put a teaspoonful of wheat bran in the head. If hard rains follow you may have to repeat. The cure is said to be effectual, the worms becoming mired in the shorts made wet with the dew. They seldom attack the cabbage after they are headed.

Paranip Cakes.

Grate raw parsnip, mix with it an equal quantity of bread crumbs add two or three eggs, seasoning to taste, add milk to make the ingredients into cakes, and fry them in butter a light brown, over a slow fire.

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